

REMARKS]**Status of Claims**

The Office Action mailed December 29, 2005, has been reviewed and the Examiner's comments have been carefully considered. Claims 1-7 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 4, and 6 have been amended while no new claims have been canceled or newly added. Therefore, claims 1-7 are pending in the application and are submitted for reconsideration.

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, are presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Applicants thank the examiner for indicating that claim 5 is allowed.

Substance of the Interview on April 28, 2006

Applicants sincerely thank examiner Restifo for the courtesy of a productive interview on April 28, 2006. In the interview, amendments similar to that with respect to amended claims 1 and 4 were discussed with respect to the disclosure of U.S. Patent No. 5,087,229 ("Hewko"). In the interview, it was discussed that reciting an arrangement of the housing flange in a specified relationship with the bearing counterpart member flange and the bearing support member appeared to define over the disclosure of Hewko.

Prior Art Rejections

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,087,229 to Hewko et al. (hereafter "Hewko"). Claims 3, 6, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hewko as applied to claims 1 and 4 above. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

As discussed in the interview, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, that the installation structure of an electric rotating machine includes a specific arrangement of the housing flange (a part of the housing of the electric rotating machine) which is located between a wheel-side section of a bearing support member and a bearing

counterpart member flange. Such a structure is not disclosed by Hewko and, therefore, pending claim 1 is believed to be patentable over the applied prior art.

Independent claim 4 also recites a housing flange and a bearing counterpart member flange which is part of a specifically designed bearing counterpart member with a cylindrical shaft section being arranged coaxial with the cylindrical section of the wheel hub to form a cylindrical bearing. The housing flange is fixedly connected to the housing and the housing flange is fastened to the bearing support member on the wheel side section of the bearing support member. This recited arrangement is also not disclosed or suggested by Hewko. Accordingly, independent claim 4 is also patentable over the applied prior art.

The dependent claims are also in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons, as discussed above, as the independent claims on which they ultimately depend. In addition, they recite additional patentable features when considered as a whole.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. If there are any questions regarding the application, or if an examiner's amendment would facilitate the allowance of one or more of the claims, the examiner is courteously invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account No. 19-0741 for any such fees; and applicant hereby petitions for any needed extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

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FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

Customer Number: 22428

Telephone: (202) 672-5485

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By Aaron C. Chatterjee

Richard L. Schwaab

Registration No. 25,479

Aaron C. Chatterjee

Registration No. 41,398

Attorneys for Applicants